



Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Fire Prevention Division Information Sheet



Effective Date: July 1, 2014

CLV Ordinance #6325

The items listed are basic information only. Codes are subject to change. Additional requirements may apply.

Banquet Table / Conference Seating Configurations

This information sheet has been created to assist our customers that provide or configure banquet tables with seating and or conference type theater type seating.

General: A City of Las Vegas Special Use Permit may be required for events utilizing such arrangements. Whether a special use permit is required or not, such configurations shall be reviewed by Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, Fire Prevention Division for compliance.

For prompt review and fire code compliance determination, the following documents shall be included with the permit package:

- A completed Temporary and or Special Use Permit application.
- A detailed scaled site plan indicating the overall venue including the exiting configurations.
- Fire extinguisher, hose connection locations
- Table and chair configurations with details of the aisles, aisle accessway and cross aisle measurements.
- Any food service locations including method for warming food. (Chafing dishes etc.)

Definitions:

Aisle accessway – The initial portion of an exit that leads to an aisle or other means of egress. (The circulation space around tables is considered aisle accessway). **(IFC 1002)**

Aisle accessway travel distance - The maximum length of travel along the *aisle accessway* shall not exceed 30 feet (9144mm) from any seat to the point where a person has a choice of two or more paths of egress travel to separate *exits*. **(IFC 1017.4.3)**

Aisle – An unenclosed exit access component that defines and provides a path of egress travel. In the case of Banquet seating, it can be expressed as the portion of the exit access that leads to a cross aisle or a marked exit door. **(IFC 1002)**

Cross Aisle – An aisle in a place of assembly usually parallel to rows of seats, connecting other aisles or connecting an aisle and an exit shall be no less than 44” allowing the customer at least two choices to separate exits. **(IFC 1018, NFPA 101)**



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Example: The following diagrams are reflective of seating arrangements with banquet tables and chairs.

| Seating arrangement | Minimum distance |
|---------------------|---|
| | Table seating with no seats back to back. Aisle accessway shall be no less than 36” between tables. |
| | Table seating when a single seat is backing to an aisle accessway. Space shall be no less than 55”. |
| | Table seating when seats are configured back to back o an aisle accessway The minimum width between tables shall be 74” (36’ aisle accessway space + 19 seat to table +19 seat to table). |

Conference/theater style seating arrangements:

Clear width of aisle accessways 14 or fewer seats - The minimum clear aisle accessway width must be 12 inches (305 mm) measured as the “clear horizontal distance from the back of the row ahead and the nearest projection on the row behind.” (This description simply means measure in a straight line from one seat back to the armrest or seat in the next row). **(IFC 1028)**

- Where chairs have automatic or self-rising seats the measurement is made with the seat in the upright or raised position as shown here. If any chair in the row does not have an automatic or self-rising seat, the measurement is taken with the seat in the down position.



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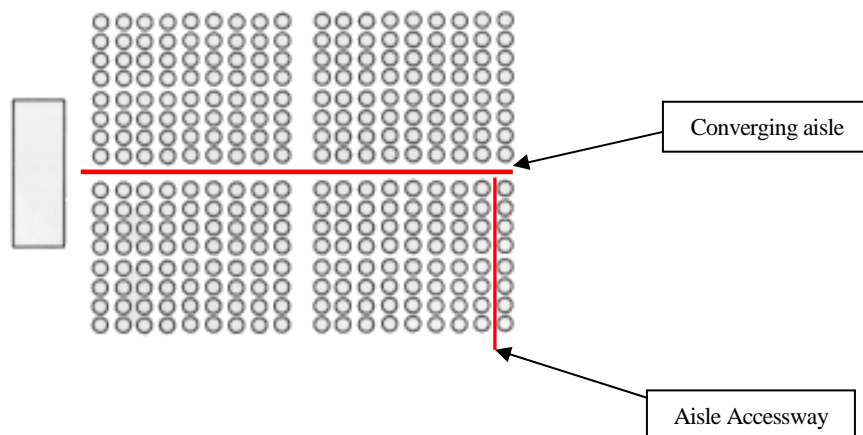


Clear width of aisle accessways serving 14 or more seats - The minimum clear width of 12 inches (305 mm) between rows shall be increased by 0.3 inches (7.6 mm) for every additional seat beyond 14, to a maximum 22 inches (559 mm) to accommodate the larger occupant load. **IFC 1028.**

Converging aisles - When an aisle converges to a single path of egress, the required egress width shall not be less than the combined required for each side. **IFC 1028.9.3** (*Basically if you are required to have 36" for seating in a row on each side*). If you have multiple sets of seats that converging aisle shall be doubled in width to 72".

Seat Bonding - Seats in locations in excess of 200 shall be securely fastened to the ground or bonded together in groups of not less than three. **IFC 1028**

Basic example of seating arrangement:



* This information sheet reflects many of the most common issues that are encountered during inspection. It is the responsibility of the organization designing the layout to assure code compliance. Refer to the appropriate adopted Fire and or Building code for complete details.

Las Vegas Fire & Rescue
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<http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Government/fire.htm>